

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
Mail Stop Patent Application  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

PATENT APPLICATION  
Date: February 9, 2004  
File No. 1201.68227

22264 U.S. PTO  
10/774676

Sir:

Transmitted herewith for filing is the patent application of

**Inventor(s):** David E. Goldberg  
Tian-Li Yu  
Ali Yassine

*I hereby certify that this paper is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as EXPRESS MAIL in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop PATENT APPLICATION, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on this date.*

February 9, 2004  
Date

Doil Amay  
Express Mail Label No.: EL846178749US

For: METHODS AND PROGRAM PRODUCTS FOR OPTIMIZING PROBLEM CLUSTERING

Enclosed are:

- (X) 31 pages of specification, including 28 claims and an abstract.
- ( ) an executed oath or declaration, with power of attorney.
- (X) an unexecuted oath or declaration, with power of attorney.
- ( ) \_\_\_ sheet(s) of informal drawing(s).
- (X) 6 sheet(s) of formal drawings(s).
- ( ) Assignment(s) of the invention to The Boards of Trustees of the University of Illinois and Assignment Cover Sheet.
- ( ) A check in the amount of \$ 40.00 to cover the fee for recording the assignment(s).
- ( ) Information Disclosure Statement, Form PTO-1449 and cited references.
- ( ) Claim for Priority and Priority Document.

### Fee Calculation For Claims As Filed

a) Basic Fee						\$ 770.00
b) Independent Claims	<u>3</u>	-	3	=	<u>0</u>	x \$ 86.00 = \$ <u>0.00</u>
c) Total Claims	<u>28</u>	-	20	=	<u>8</u>	x \$ 18.00 = \$ <u>144.00</u>
d) Fee for Multiple Dependent Claims						\$ 290.00 = \$ <u>0.00</u>

Total Filing Fee	\$ <u>914.00</u>
------------------	------------------

- (X) Applicant(s) qualifies as a Small Entity, reducing Filing Fee by half to \$ 457.00
- (X) A check in the amount of \$ 457.00 to cover the filing fee is enclosed.
- ( ) Charge \$ \_\_\_\_\_ to Deposit Account No. 07-2069.
- ( ) Other \_\_\_\_\_.
- (X) The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required to this application under 37 C.F.R. §§1.16-1.17, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 07-2069. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

300 South Wacker Drive – Suite 2500  
Chicago, Illinois 60606  
Telephone: (312) 360-0080  
Facsimile: (312) 360-9315  
Customer Number 24978

GREER, BURNS & CRAIN, LTD.

By: Thomas R. Fitzsimons  
Thomas R. Fitzsimons  
Registration No. 40,607